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## NEW HUMAN PARASITES

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*Dicercomonas* Chalmers and Pekkola, 1919 (not Diesing, 1856). *Dicercomonas soudanensis* Chalmers and Pekkola, 1919.—The proposed new species represents a new genus of flagellates of the family Tetramitidae and is characterized by the absence of cytostome and contractile vacuole, and presence of a simple nucleus, and two anterior and one posterior flagellum, the last being attached to the body for a portion of its length, but ending freely. The species in question was found in fluid feces in a few cases of diarrhea in Khartoum. The zoological position of this flagellate is discussed and a diagram illustrating the relationships of the genera and subfamilies of the Tetramitidae is given, also a key for distinguishing *Dicercomonas* and other genera comprising the subfamily Embadomonadinae. [*Dicercomonas* Chalmers and Pekkola is a homonym of *Dicercomonas* Diesing, 1856, and hence if recognized as a distinct genus must be renamed—B. H. R.] (J. Trop. Med. & Hyg., 22: 29-30; 1 pl., Feb. 15, 1919).

*Ornithodoros maroccanus* Velu, 1919.—This new tick from North Africa is readily distinguishable from *O. erraticus* (Lucas), also a North African species, but is very similar to *O. turicata* (Dugès), an American species. It clearly differs from the latter, however, in certain details of the legs and cuticle. It attacks human beings and pigs, its bite is painful, and gives rise to a pronounced local reaction of the skin which lasts for several days, sometimes accompanied by fever (Bull. Soc. Path. Exot., 12: 99-104, 9 figs.).

*Oncocerca caecutiens* Brumpt, 1919.—This species of nematode from Guatemala, which is described and figured by Brumpt, closely resembles *Oncocerca volvulus*. It occurs in subcutaneous tumors usually located on the head. According to Robles (Bull. Soc. Path. Exot., 12: 442), it is the cause of a disease known as coastal erysipelas. In some localities as many as 97 per cent. of the population may be infested with this nematode, Indians more commonly than white, and children and adult males more commonly than adult females. As a rule, only field laborers are affected. Robles thinks that certain species of *Simulium*, which are common in the localities where the parasite is found, serve as vectors (Bull. Soc. Path. Exot., 12: 464-473; 5 figs.).

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## NOTE

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Hookworm disease is a serious matter in Queensland according to Dr. Lambert, who has been investigating for the Rockefeller Foundation. Not less than 23 per cent. of the population of the coast are infected, and if the progress of the disease is not arrested serious degeneracy may be expected in a few generations. Despite denials from political officers statements in the report are confirmed by abundant evidence from scientific sources.